

Reed Reflections *...from the desk of Judy Reed*

Developing practical training courses for third world missionaries

May 2021

Chick Magnet!

Mom is so much fun! She provides all manner of joviality in our world. Here's a picture of another of her escapades. My brother Stu and his wife Ruth recently got a recumbent tricycle built for two and they've been riding it for exercise. One day they dropped by the house so we could see it in action. Ruth dismounted and we helped Mom into the back seat to pose for a photo, which she thought was great fun. Stu posted the picture on Facebook declaring his bike a real chick magnet!



The Weaving Begins

The year was 2015. It was the year of my miraculous re-connection with the people of Churingaveni, Peru where I had worked 35 years previously as a linguist and Bible translator. 2015 was a glorious year for me in so many ways, and very special for Bob, too, as he got to teach at CILTA in Lima and also meet “my people” in Churingaveni for the first time.

But those weren't the only special things that happened that year. **2015 was also the year that God began weaving the threads that would eventually lead us to ProMETA.**

As a result of our time at CILTA, I was put in touch with a sweet Costa Rican missionary mom named Yorleny whom I had never met. A mutual friend from CILTA felt that I could be a good support to her. So Yorleny and I set up weekly Skype dates to talk and pray together, and we have become great friends. Fast forward to

November of 2020, when Robert and I put out our newsletter asking for prayer that we would find an organization that he could partner with in distributing his courses.

I happened to mention that need to Yorlenny during our Skype prayer session one day, and she told me about two or three Costa Rican organizations she knew of that might fit the bill. Robert researched them, and was especially drawn to ProMETA. It turns out that ProMETA was also very drawn to him. The fit feels perfect, almost as though God Himself designed it. 😊

So in this letter we introduce you to Yorlenny and her husband Manuel Porras. They have had a thriving ministry among the indigenous peoples of Costa Rica and Panama for 15 years, training pastors, teaching life skills, mentoring, traveling to many village locations, etc. They have recently switched mission agencies, requiring them to enlarge their support network and increase their funding* as well as get more training. One neat thing is that they received part of their training through CILTA and part through ProMETA, weaving their lives and ours together in yet another way in God's beautiful tapestry.

Robert looks back over how God has woven together the many strands of his life—being born a missionary kid, growing up speaking Spanish before he spoke English, teaching at the university level in several countries in English and Spanish, earning a variety of graduate degrees that fit together for this ministry, working as a university administrator with a start-up school, etc. As he sees God's orchestration in all the details, Esther 4:14 (“And who knows but that you have come to your ... position for such a time as this?”) is impressed on his mind, as if God were saying, “Look at all the things that I have done to prepare you for this time in My kingdom!” We are awed at God's attention to detail and humbled to be able to participate in His Kingdom work in this way. A huge **thank you** to each of you who make this ministry possible for us. May God's blessing overflow in your lives!

*If you are looking for a national missionary to support, we highly recommend this couple, and will gladly provide more information upon request.



Missionary life! Yorlenny and Manuel fording a river in Panama.

Praise and Prayer

- Praise for God's orchestration in connecting us with ProMETA.
- Pray for health and strength to do the things God calls us to do.
- Praise that Mom has healed from her broken ribs. Pray for me as I care for her. I also still need prayer for sleep.
- Pray for Yorlenny and Manuel to get the support they need to continue their ministry.
- Yorlenny recently lost her brother to covid. Please pray for God's comfort for her and her family.

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